

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00
ICAE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 MCT-01 SY-05 IO-13 SCS-06 CA-01
OC-06 CCO-00 A-01 OPR-02 AID-05 PC-01 /099 W
-----098415 121343Z /47

O 121250Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6814

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

PARIS 2902

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

INFO AMCONSUL KADUNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 1442

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, CD

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON MINISTER OF JUSTICE

1. ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT DIRECTED AGAINST MINISTER OF JUSTICE MAHAMOUD OCCURRED IN THE EARLY EVENING OF APRIL 11. HAND GRENADE WAS THROWN INTO THE GARDEN OF MAHAMOUDS HOME. MINISTER WAS KNOCKED UNCONSCIOUS, SUFFERED MINOR SHRAPNEL WOUNDS, AND ONE EAR DRUM WAS BROKEN. TWO OTHER MEMBERS OF FAMILY WERE WOUNDED ONE SUFFERING A BROKEN ARM AND THE OTHER ABDOMINAL WOUNDS OF UNDETERMINED SEVERITY.

2. ACCORDING TO FRENCH AMBASSADOR, GOVERNMENT
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HAS BEEN AWARE FOR SEVERAL DAYS THAT GROUP OF TERRORISTS ARMED WITH GRENADES HAD ARRIVED IN THE CITY FROM MAIDUGURI, NIGERIA. MOST MEMBERS OF THE BAND HAD BEEN ARRESTED BUT THE GRENADES WERE NOT FOUND. HE ASSUMES THE ATTEMPT AGAINST MINISTER MAHAMOUD CAME FROM THIS GROUP. VICE PRESIDENT DJIME SUBSEQUENTLY CONFIRMED FOREGOING. HE ADDED

THAT GOVT EXPECTED FURTHER ISOLATED ATTEMPTS
OVER HOLIDAYS, BUT FELT ARMY HAD OVERALL SECURITY
SITUATION UNDER CONTROL.

3. MAHAMOUND IS UNUSUAL TARGET AS HE HAS BEEN
ONE OF THE TWO MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME MILITARY
COUNCIL MOST CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH LIBYA AT THIS
JUNCTURE. HOWEVER, IT MUST BE BORNE IN MIND THAT
TERRORIST GROUP OPERATIONG OUT OF NIGERIA, WHICH
RECENTLY KIDNAPPED ONE FRENCH AND ONE SWISS
STUDENT, DOES NOT HAVE CLOSE TIES WITH THE LIBYAN-
DOMINATED FROLINAT.

4. YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, PRECEDING THE ATTEMPT,
VICE PRESIDENT DJIME HAD MADE A RADIO STATEMENT
IN THE NAME OF THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL
CONDEMNING ELEMENTS OF THE POPULATION IN THE PAY
OF FOREIGN POWERS WHO WERE DISSEMINATING FALSE
INFORMATION AND INCITING THE POPULATION TO REVOLT.
HE PARTICULARLY NOTED UNFORTUNATE DEMONSTRATIONS
IN ABECHE AND MONGO AND ALLUDED TO SOME SORT OF
UNSPECIFIED PROBLEM IN ONE OF THE
MOSQUES IN NDJAMENA.

5. ALL AMERICANS HAVE BEEN WARNED TO EXERCISE
CAUTION OVER APRIL 13 INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY. BRADOFRD
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Message Attributes

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